



Middlebury  
College



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**Friends of International Students (FIS)**  
**Host Program Newsletter, Fall 2019**  
**A Note from ISSS; Important Dates and Reminders; Events; FIS Story Corner**

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**A Note from ISSS**

The ISSS team happily welcomed our new international students to campus during Labor Day weekend and we have truly enjoyed getting to know these remarkable individuals. Many wonderful families from Middlebury and other surrounding communities eagerly awaited their arrival and the opportunity to become their FIS hosts.

We held our first FIS matching event of the season on Saturday, September 28 as well as a second smaller event on Monday evening, October 7. Hosts and students enjoyed refreshments while getting to know each other and made plans for their next gathering. What a happy day!

Each year we hear wonderful stories about hosts and students whose friendships have continued long after graduation. How wonderful to see these relationships stand the test of time and distance. We hope all of our host families and students will make time for each other and create lasting memories in the days and months ahead.



## Important Dates and Reminders

**Campus Dining Halls** – If you would like to join your student in the Dining Hall, please be prepared to pay with cash. Prices are as follows: Breakfast \$8, Lunch \$10, Dinner \$12.

**Thanksgiving Break** – Thanksgiving recess begins on Tuesday, November 26, at 4:15 p.m. and runs through Sunday, December 1. Some students will leave campus. Yet, due to the brevity of the break, many students choose to stay on campus during this time. If they choose to remain here, they must register through Self-Service Banner (our student information system) to have access to their residence hall. Although students can stay in their rooms, Dining Services closes for daily meals. If you are in the area during the holiday weekend, this is a great time for you to connect with your student. The last meal served in the dining halls will be breakfast on Wednesday, November 27, in Proctor Dining Hall. The first meal after the break will be dinner on Sunday, December 1, in Ross and Proctor Dining Halls. Then, Atwater Dining Hall will re-open for breakfast and classes will resume on Monday, December 2. For those staying on campus:

- Dining Services will prepare a Thanksgiving Meal on Thursday, November 28, in Atwater Dining Hall from 12-2 p.m. This meal is **free** for students who have registered to stay on campus as well as faculty and staff who are working that day. For other College guests, faculty and staff the cost is \$5.00 per person.
- **All attendees** must obtain a ticket by **Wednesday, November 27**.
- Tickets will be on sale at the end of October. To purchase, please visit the Box Office in person in McCullough Student Center or online at <http://boxoffice.middlebury.edu/>.



**Final Exams** – The final exam period begins on Tuesday, December 10, and ends on Sunday, December 15. Students have varying exam schedules, including take-home exams and term papers depending on their courses. Exams may be scheduled during the day or evening. The exam period is always a hectic and stressful time so you may want to ask your student about his or her schedule. A care package, a message of encouragement, a tea or coffee break with you or even a visit to their room with your pet can lift your student's spirits!

**Winter Recess** – The winter recess begins on Sunday, December 15, and runs through Friday, January 3. Most students leave campus for the 3-week vacation. The College and most offices officially close during that time. Students who do not have an alternative option can request permission from their Commons Dean to stay on campus for **all or part of the break**. The application is available at the Residential Life website by mid-November at: <http://www.middlebury.edu/student-life/community-living/residential-life/use-of-residential-spaces/Recess> . Only students who have submitted this request can remain on campus. It may be worth having a conversation with your student about their plans to help brainstorm ideas and/or to encourage them to request permission to stay. **Students can always adjust their request if they end up being able to travel off campus.** Dining services closes after breakfast in Ross Dining Hall on Monday, December 16, and will re-open for dinner in Proctor Dining Hall on Thursday, January 2 for students who requested permission to stay on campus during the recess.

During this time, students will have access to kitchens, but must provide their own food. The winter break is a quiet and sometimes lonely time for those who remain on campus so this is a great time to invite your student to share meals with you or offer to drive them to the store so they can do some grocery shopping.

**Break Travel** – Many students will travel to and from the airport during the Winter Break. ISSS does not expect you to provide transportation so please do not feel obligated to do so. The Student Government Association (SGA) is providing discounted bus services to and from the airport in Burlington (\$15 each way) and to some of the major metropolitan areas around the November and December breaks. Students can purchase tickets through the College Box Office in person or at <http://boxoffice.middlebury.edu/>. You may also direct your student to the following link for alternate transportation options: <http://www.middlebury.edu/sustainability/transportation> . If you happen to be going to Burlington during the break times, you may want to bring your student along for the ride so they have an opportunity to do some shopping or sightseeing of their own.

**Winter Term/January Term**– For those students who have not been on campus during the Winter Recess, residence Halls open at 9 a.m. on Saturday, January 4. Winter Term classes run from Monday, January 6 until Friday, January 31. Students take one course during the winter term, so they may have more time available for activities with their hosts. If your schedule allows, this is another great time to connect with your student for outdoor winter activities, or for those who prefer to stay warm indoors, a movie, board game or a road trip to one of Vermont's cultural destinations.



### **February Student Hosts**

We are looking for hosts for our February 2020 students as well as other students who decide to join the program. If you would be interested in hosting one of these students, please contact the ISSS Office at [iss@middlebury.edu](mailto:iss@middlebury.edu) (subject line: FIS Host Program) or at **(802) 443-5858**.

### **Events**

#### **ARTiculation (Thursday Night at the Museum)**

Thursday evenings until 8:30 p.m., Mahaney Center for the Arts, Museum of Art

This year, in addition to its normal hours, the College museum will be open most Thursday evenings for a variety of events from gallery talks to musical performances. Free refreshments will be available. Please check the website for details each week. *Free and open to the public.*

<http://museum.middlebury.edu/news/ARTiculation>

#### **Hirshfield International Film Series**

Come to the Dana Auditorium on Saturdays at 3 p.m. or 8 p.m. to enjoy fabulous foreign and independent films. *Free and open to the public.*

<http://www.middlebury.edu/academics/fmmc/hirschfield/2019-2020>

### **Votes...for Women?**

September 13-December 8, 2019, Middlebury College Museum of Art

Honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the campaign to ratify the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, this exhibit features photographs, banners and memorabilia from the women's suffrage movement.

*Free and open to the public.*

<http://museum.middlebury.edu/exhibitions/upcoming/node/2976>

### **Immigration Restrictions Then and Now: Short Stories of Edith Eaton (Sui Sin Far)**

Wednesday, November 6, 7-8:30 p.m., Ilseley Public Library

Suzanne Brown leads a discussion of three 1912 short stories that examine the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 and explore issues that still resonate today such as assimilation, family separations, and fear of deportation. *Free and open to the public.*

<https://www.vermonthhumanities.org/event/immigration-restrictions-then-and-now>

### **ISO Show**

Saturday, November 16, McCullough Wilson Hall

Family-friendly showcase: 5-6 p.m., Complete show: 8:00-10:30 p.m.

The International Students' Organization (ISO) Show is one of the most anticipated cultural shows of the year, featuring singing, dancing, readings and more. Tickets go on sale Monday, October 28, in person at the Box Office in McCullough Student Center, on their website at <http://boxoffice.middlebury.edu/> or by phone at (802) 443-6433.



### **German Play: Mörder mögen's messerscharf**

Saturday, December 7, 2019, Chateau 005 (Performance Space)

The German Theater Group at Middlebury presents this contemporary "Krimikomödie" (crime comedy) play in which the victim tries to find out who killed him.

*Free and open to the public.*

<http://www.middlebury.edu/events?trumbaEmbed=eventid%3D379448528%26view%3Devent%26-childview%3D>

### **Lessons & Carols for Advent and Christmas**

Sunday, December 8, 4-5:30 p.m. and 7-8:30 p.m., Mead Chapel

An annual program that features music of the season sung by the Middlebury College choir, readings by students, faculty, and staff and the joyous sound of the chapel carillon. Donations are collected for local charities. *Free and open to the public.*

[http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar\\_of\\_events](http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar_of_events)

Find other exhibitions, performances and events at the College and in our local area by clicking on the following links:

- **The College Calendar:** [http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar\\_of\\_events](http://www.middlebury.edu/events/calendar_of_events)
- **Middlebury College Museum of Art:** <http://museum.middlebury.edu/>
- **Addison County Chamber of Commerce:** <https://www.addisoncounty.com>
- **Burlington happenings:** <http://www.sevendaysvt.com/>



### **FIS Story Corner**

The FIS Story Corner is a chance to share the adventures you have with your students in words and/or pictures and articles that would be of interest to the FIS Community. Please send your submissions to us at [iss@middlebury.edu](mailto:iss@middlebury.edu) so we can proudly share them here!



Yui Kanaoka (right) met up with Eli Miller, grandson of host Joel Miller, in Madrid, Spain.





Marshall Sanchez and Monica Sanchez Webb enjoyed meeting their new host student Emily Zhou (above right) on matching day and hosted a gathering afterwards which included their other student Bunmi Adeboye (below left).







Alice Zhang joined hosts Christine Kossov and Walter Stugis for lunch at Proctor Dining Hall, visited their home to meet the family pets and toured some local farms.

And here are more photos from our September 28 and October 7 Matching Events. Enjoy!









***We wish you a peaceful and happy fall season.***



**ISSS Staff**

|                      |                                           |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Kathy Foley</b>   | Associate Dean and Director of ISSS       |
| <b>Christy Fry</b>   | Assistant Director of ISSS                |
| <b>Kas Singh</b>     | International Student and Scholar Advisor |
| <b>Janet Hulnick</b> | Interim Immigration Specialist            |
| <b>Loren Scott</b>   | International Services Specialist         |
| <b>Carolyn Dahm</b>  | Administrative Coordinator                |